

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 19, 2022

The Honorable Antony Blinken  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable Lloyd J. Austin III  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301

The Honorable Robert Menendez  
Chairman  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James E. Risch  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Secretary Blinken, Secretary Austin, Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Risch,


The Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden have announced their intention to apply for membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). We urge the Administration and United States Senate to work together and with our NATO Allies to advance immediately the accession protocols authorizing NATO membership for Finland and Sweden.

Both Finland and Sweden have advanced economies and strong democratic institutions that align with the founding values enshrined in the Washington Treaty. Both nations are members of NATO's Partnership for Peace and are Enhanced Opportunity Partners. Finland and Sweden have well-trained armed forces, sophisticated modern weapon systems, and have committed to allocating two percent of GDP to defense spending. They have participated in numerous NATO-led operations, including in Afghanistan and the Balkans, and regularly conduct exercises with NATO. As such, their forces are highly interoperable with other members and the United States. Allowing these nations to join would strengthen NATO's deterrence across the Arctic, Nordic, and Baltic regions.

The Russian Federation's unprovoked full-scale invasion of Ukraine, an independent, peaceful, and democratic country, demonstrates the need for effective deterrence. Additionally, an increasingly aggressive posture from Russia toward both countries make expedited action by the Administration and consent to ratification of the accession protocols by the Senate an imperative. Recently, Russian operatives have initiated cyber-attacks on Finnish government sites, Russian manned military aircraft have violated Finnish sovereign airspace, and suspected Russian drones have been observed in Swedish restricted areas, to include nuclear power plants and the royal palace. As members of NATO, Finland and Sweden, would enhance the military capabilities of the alliance and serve to increase the deterrent effect of the alliance against an increasingly aggressive Russia.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter and urge you to advance the NATO accession of Finland and Sweden as expeditiously as possible. Their membership would strengthen NATO deterrence of Russia and U.S. national security.

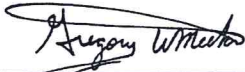
Sincerely,



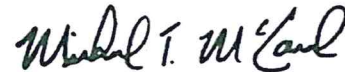
Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
Chair  
House Foreign Affairs  
Committee



Michael T. McCaul  
Ranking Member  
House Foreign Affairs  
Committee



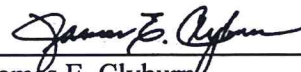
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers  
Member of Congress



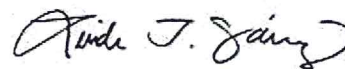
Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn  
Majority Whip



Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Neal P. Dunn, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



Austin Scott (GA-08)  
Member of Congress



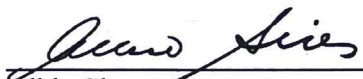
David Scott  
Member of Congress



Kathy Manning  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



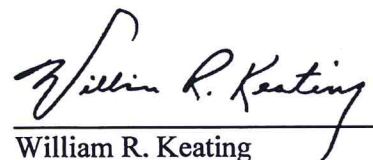
Young Kim  
Member of Congress



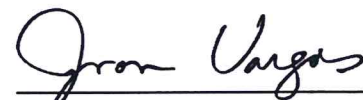
Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



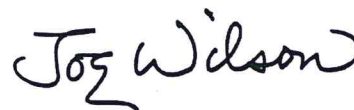
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



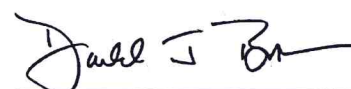
Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress



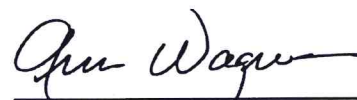
Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



Don Bacon  
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



Blake D. Moore  
Member of Congress



Stephanie Murphy  
Member of Congress



Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress





David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress




Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Stephanie Bice  
Member of Congress



Mike Gallagher  
Member of Congress



Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress



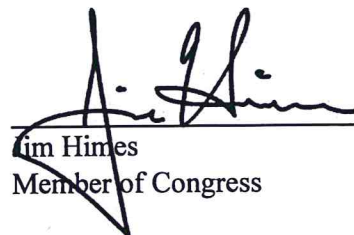
Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Liz Cheney  
Member of Congress



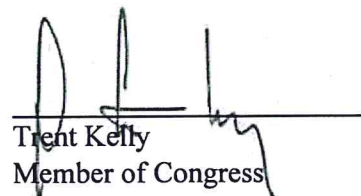
SETH MOULTON  
Member of Congress



Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



Val Butler Demings  
Member of Congress



Trent Kelly  
Member of Congress




André Carson  
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



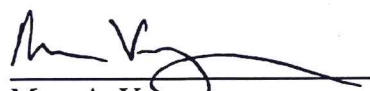
Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



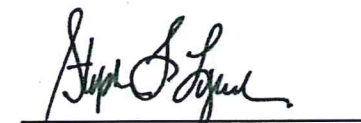
Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress




Maria Elvira Salazar  
Member of Congress



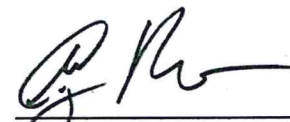
Dan Crenshaw  
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



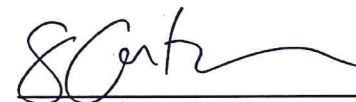
Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler  
Member of Congress



Steve Womack  
Member of Congress



Sean Casten  
Member of Congress

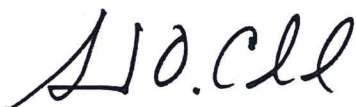


Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



David E. Price  
Member of Congress

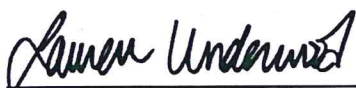




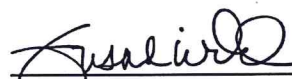
Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



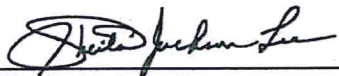
Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress



Lauren Underwood  
Member of Congress



Susan Wild  
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress



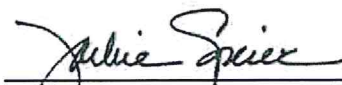
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



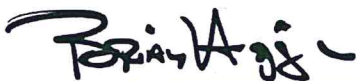
Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



Robert J. Wittman  
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



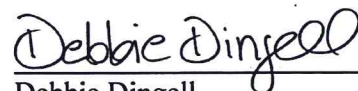
Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



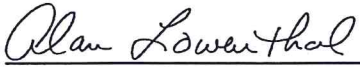
Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress

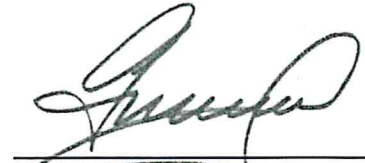



Peter Meijer M.C.  
Member of Congress

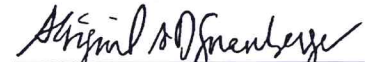


Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress


  
Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress


  
Carlos A. Gimenez  
Member of Congress


  
Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress


  
Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress


  
Kaiali'i Kahele  
Member of Congress

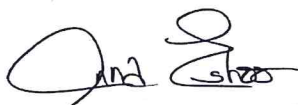
  
Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress

  
Fred Upton  
Member of Congress

  
Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress

  
Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress

  
Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress



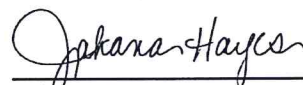
Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Peter Welch  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
Member of Congress



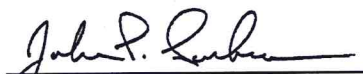
Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress



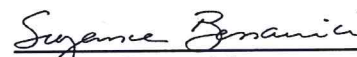
Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



Troy Carter  
Member of Congress



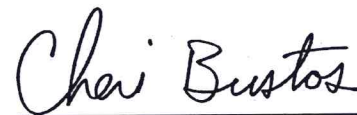
John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress





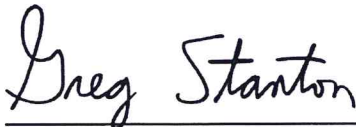
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Andy Kim  
Member of Congress



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Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



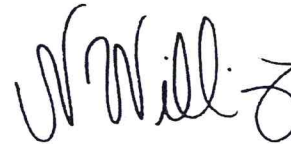
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Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



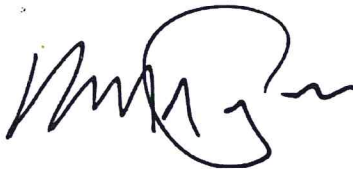
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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



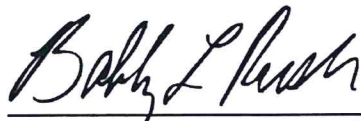
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Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



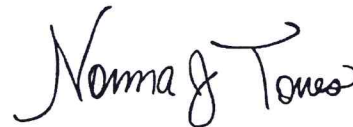
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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress




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Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



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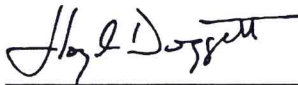
Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



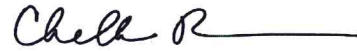
Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress



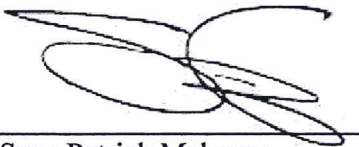
Ed Case  
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress



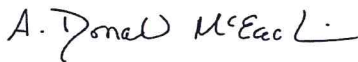
Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



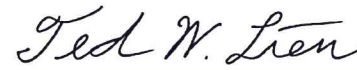
Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



A. Donald McEachin  
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



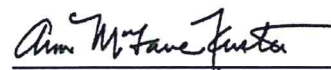
Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



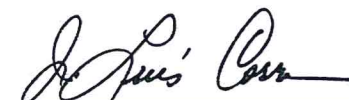
Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



Charlie Crist  
Member of Congress



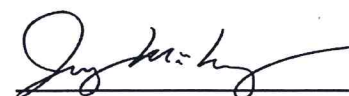
Hakeem Jeffries  
Member of Congress



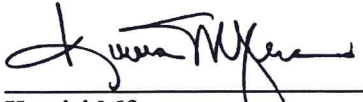
J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress

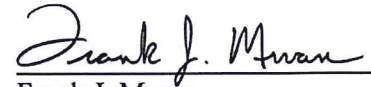


Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress




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Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



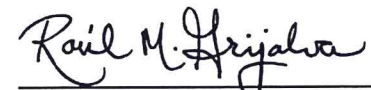
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Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



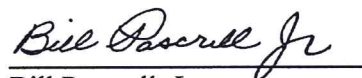
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Brenda L. Lawrence  
Member of Congress




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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress




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Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress




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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress




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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



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Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress





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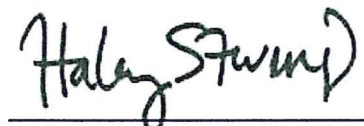
Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress


  
Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress

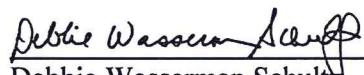
  
C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress


  
Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress


  
Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress


  
Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress

  
Cynthia Axne  
Member of Congress

  
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress

  
Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress

  
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress

  
Mark Takano  
Member of Congress





Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



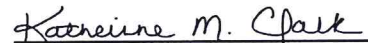
Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



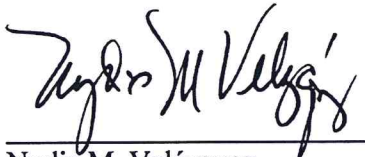
Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



Katherine M. Clark  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



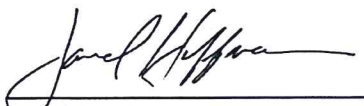
Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

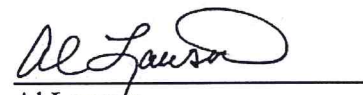


Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress




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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



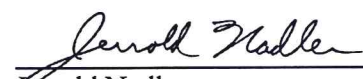
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Al Lawson  
Member of Congress



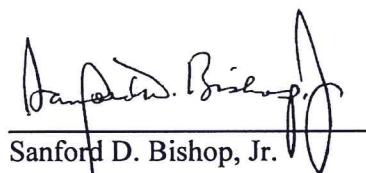
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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



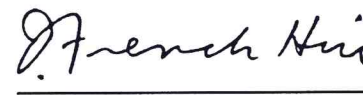
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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress




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French Hill  
Member of Congress




---

Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



---

Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



---

Tom Malinowski  
Member of Congress



---

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Yarmuth', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Earl Blumenauer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress